

SON-2137

PATENT APPLICATION

# 7  
3-22-04  
JC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Toshitaka YOSHIHIRO et al

Confirmation No. 2332

Application No.: 09/864,336

Group Art: 2615

Filed: May 25, 2001

Examiner: Sharon Latimer

For: MAGNETIC TAPE TRACKING CONTROL  
APPARATUS AND METHOD, MAGNETIC  
TAPE FORMAT, RECORDING MEDIUM AND  
PROGRAM

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MAR 18 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The Applicant, through its representatives and attorneys, hereby brings to the attention of the Examiner the four (4) documents identified on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. These documents emanated from the European search report dated February 20, 2004. Copies are provided.

This submission is timely in that it is made prior to the initial Action on the merits of this application. It is also timely in that it is provided within three months from the subject communication in a corresponding foreign application, as noted, and thus certification is appropriate.

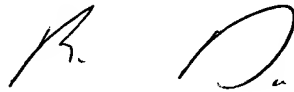
For the convenience of the examiner, a copy of the European search report itself, and its accompanying Annex showing patent family members for the citations, are provided.

This information disclosure statement is filed at this time to place these documents with the Examiner for the initial examination on the merits.

Please take these documents into account in the initial examination along with the background information in the application as filed. An early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Dated: March 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



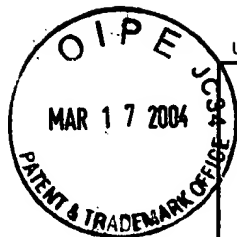
*for*

Ronald P. Kananen  
Reg. No. 24,104

Brian Duffan  
Reg. No. 47,255

**RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER P.L.L.C.**  
1233 20<sup>TH</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 501  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-955-3750-Phone  
202-955-3751 - Fax

Customer No. 23353



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002.OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Application Number</b>	09/864,336
				<b>Filing Date</b>	May 25, 2001
				<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Toshitaka Yoshihiro
				<b>Art Unit</b>	2615
				<b>Examiner Name</b>	Sharon Latimer
<b>Sheet</b>	1	of	1	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	SON-2137

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A				
	A				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
	BA	EP 0 618 567 A2	10/05/94	Matsushita Electric Ind. Co.		✓
	BB	EP 0 701 380 A2	03/13/96	Sony Corp.		✓
	BC	WO 98/34228	08/06/98	Koninkl Philips Electronics NV		✓

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	CA	European Search Report and Annex dated 02/20/04	
	CB	Onishi K, et al. "Trick Play Method for Digital VCRs" Electronics & Communications in Japan, Part III - Fundamental Electronic Science, Scripta Technical, New York, US, Vol. 80, No. 12, 12/01/97, pgs. 65-80	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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